

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Office Action requires Applicants to elect a single disclosed species of an oligomeric compound of formula V for prosecution on the merits. Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter recited in the present claims is such that a reasonable search would necessarily reveal any and all prior disclosures of claimed species, assuming that any exist. Accordingly, a search and examination of the entirety of the claimed subject matter would not impose a serious burden on the Examiner.

Nevertheless, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.146, Applicants elect for initial examination the species designated as ISIS # 120745 and depicted in Table 1 on page 61 of the specification as originally filed. Claims 1 to 7, 16 to 20, 21 to 26, and 36 to 40 read on the elected species.

It is Applicants' understanding that this election is being made solely to aid the Examiner in conducting a search and examination of the claimed subject matter, and is not to be construed as limiting the scope of Applicants' claims. It is Applicants' further understanding that, if the elected subject matter is found to be allowable over the prior art, the search and examination will be expanded to cover other species, until the examination includes the full scope of the claimed subject matter. To the extent that this is not the intent of the Official Action, Applicants respectfully traverse the election of species requirement for the reasons discussed above.

**DOCKET NO.:** ISIS-4804  
**Application No.:** 09/996,292  
**Office Action Dated:** September 23, 2002

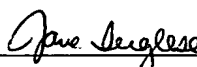
**PATENT**

**Conclusion**

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a complete and full response to the Office Action of record and Applicants further believe that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early and favorable Action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 15, 2003.

  
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